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TO AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 240023

LONDON: FOR COUNSELOR SONNENFELDT

PARIS: FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY HARTMAN

FOLLOWING REPEAT MOSCOW 16650 SENT SECSTATE INFO BERLIN

USBERLIN BONN ISLAMABAD LENINGRAD NATO VIENNA DATED OCT 31.

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 MOSCOW 16650

ISLAMABAD FOR SECRETARY'S PARTY

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: PFOR, GW, UR, WB

SUBJ: MORE ON THE SCHMIDT VISIT

REF: MOSCOW 16569

1. SUMMARY. THE COMMUNIQUE ("JOINT STATEMENT")
ISSUED AT THE END OF THE SCHMIDT VISIT STRESSES THE
STRONG POINTS OF THE FRG-SOVIET RELATIONSHIP --
PRIMARILY THOSE FOUND IN BILATERAL ECONOMIC TIES--
AND NOTES FURTHER PROGRESS TOWARD THE SOLUTION OF
SOME OUTSTANDING BILATERAL POLITICAL PROBLEMS. OUR
FRG COLLEAGUES HAVE REQUESTED THEIR ASSESSMENT (REFTEL)
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OF THE VISIT AS USEFUL, EVEN THOUGH THE CROP OF ACTUAL

ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN TERMS OF AGREEMENTS SIGNED WAS A RATHER SMALL ONE. IT APPEARS TO US THAT THE VISIT IN FACT LIVED UP TO PREDICTIONS MADE BY BOTH SIDES IN MID-OCTOBER THAT IT WOULD INVOLVE HARD BARGAINING ON SOME OF THE MORE STUBBORN ISSUES IN FRG-SOVIET RELATIONS, WITH SOME PROGRESS PROBABLE BUT NOT MANY OUTRIGHT AGREEMENTS LIKELY. OUR FRG COLLEAGUES ARE APPARENTLY SATISFIED WITH MEDIA COVERAGE DURING THE VISIT, INCLUDING A FIVE-MINUTE SCHMIDT SPEECH WHICH WAS BROADCAST OCTOBER 30 ON THE NATIONAL EVENING TELEVISION NEWS PROGRAM. END SUMMARY.

2. BERLIN. THE COMMUNIQUE (PUBLISHED IN THE CENTRAL PRESS MORNING OF OCTOBER 31) MAKES NO DIRECT REFERENCE TO BERLIN, NOTING ONLY BRIEFLY THAT THE QA "WAS DISCUSSED," AND THAT BOTH SIDES REAFFIRMED THEIR STATEMENT OF MAY 21, 1973, IN THIS REGARD (THE STATEMENT CALLING FOR STRICT ADHERENCE MADE DURING THE BREZHNEV VISIT TO BONN). NEVERTHELESS, AS REPORTED REFTEL, THE FRG IS ENCOURAGED BY WHAT IT SEES AS SOVIET MOVEMENT BEGUN DURING THE VISIT ON THE INCLUSION OF WEST BERLIN IN BILATERAL FRG-SOVIET AGREEMENTS. THE FRG POLITICAL COUNSELOR, BALSER, REPEATED THIS ASSESSMENT ON OCTOBER 31, NOTING THAT TALKS ON BERLIN WILL CONTINUE, WITH SOME PROSPECT FOR SUCCESS. THE COMMUNIQUE DOES ANNOUNCE, WITHOUT EXPLAINING THE BERLIN CONNECTION, THAT PROGRESS WAS REACHED ON THE CULTURAL EXCHANGE, THE SCIENTIFIC-TECHNOLOGICAL COOPERATION, AND THE TOURIST OFFICE EXCHANGE AGREEMENTS, AND ADDS THAT THIS PROGRESS "ALLOWS THE EXPECTATION OF SUCCESS" DURING FURTHER WORK ON THE AGREEMENTS. IT PLACES THE QUESTION OF LEGAL ASSISTANCE ON A LOWER LEVEL OF EXPECTATION, HOWEVER, NOTING SIMPLY THAT BOTH SIDES HAD CONFIRMED THE "POSSIBILITY OF POSITIVE RESULTS" IN FURTHER DISCUSSIONS ON THE ISSUE. BALSER ALSO SAID THAT THE SOVIETS REACTED VERY NEGATIVELY TO ANY SUGGESTION OF LUFTHANSA FLIGHTS INTO TEGEL.

3. ETHNIC GERMAN EMIGRATION. THE COMMUNIQUE, IN CONFIDENTIAL

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WHAT IS PROBABLY A REFERENCE TO THIS QUESTION, NOTES THE "FAVORABLE DEVELOPMENT IN THE RESOLUTION OF PROBLEMS OF A HUMANITARIAN CHARACTER," AND SAYS THAT THE SIDES "ADVOCATE THEIR CONSIDERATION IN A POSITIVE WAY IN THE FUTURE AS WELL."

4. CSCE. THE COMMUNIQUE CALLS FOR COMPLETION OF CSCE "IN THE SHORTEST POSSIBLE TIME," BUT AVOIDS ANY REFERENCE

TO LEVEL OF REPRESENTATION AT THE CONCLUDING SESSION. BALSER SAID THAT THE DECISION TO OMIT ALL REFERENCE TO LEVEL WAS TAKEN AFTER NEITHER SIDE WOULD MOVE FROM ITS OWN POSITION ON THE QUESTION -- THE SOVIETS INSISTING ON "HIGHEST LEVEL," THE FRG ON "APPROPRIATE LEVEL." HE ALSO NOTED THAT THE WEST GERMANS PROPOSED THEIR LANGUAGE ON PEACEFUL CHANGE TO THE SOVIETS, WHO REPLIED THAT THEY WOULD "CONSIDER" THE LANGUAGE.

5. MBFR. THOUGH THE COMMUNIQUE ANNOUNCES THAT THE SIDES "EXCHANGED OPINIONS" ON MBFR BALSER SAID THAT IN FACT NO SUBSTANTIVE EXCHANGE OF OPINION HAD TAKEN PLACE ON THE SUBJECT. SCHMIDT DID FIND AN OPPORTUNITY TO EXPOUND A FEW OF HIS VIEWS, BUT THE SOVIETS, AS WE UNDERSTAND IT, DID NOT PURSUE THE SUBJECT.

6. DISARMAMENT. THE COMMUNIQUE ANNOUNCES SUPPORT FOR AN EXAMINATION OF MEASURES AIMED AT PROHIBITING ENVIRONMENTAL MODIFICATION FOR MILITARY MEANS, THOUGH IT DOES NOT MENTION THE SOVIET UN PROPOSAL ON THIS ISSUE. IT ALSO NOTES THAT BOTH SIDES UNDERLINED THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE NPT, AND THAT SCHMIDT "EXPRESSED THE HOPE" THAT SALT II WOULD BE SUCCESSFUL.

7. EC-COMECON RELATIONS. BOTH SIDES AGREED THAT ESTABLISHMENT OF "OFFICIAL CONTACTS" BETWEEN THE EC AND COMECON WOULD SERVE TO BROADEN ECONOMIC TIES BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENTS OF EUROPE.

8. MIDDLE EAST. THE COMMUNIQUE TAKES A NON-CONTROVERSIAL LINE ON THE MIDDLE EAST, SUPPORTING THE UN RESOLUTIONS AND STATING THAT THE "LEGITIMATE RIGHTS OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE" SHOULD BE "PROTECTED"

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IN AN "APPROPRIATE WAY." THE COMMUNIQUE ALSO NOTES THAT DISENGAGEMENT IS ONLY THE FIRST STEP TOWARD REGULARIZATION OF THE SITUATION, AND THAT THE EARLY RECONVENING OF THE MEPC "SHOULD PLAY" A "USEFUL ROLE" IN REACHING THIS GOAL.

9. BILATERAL ECONOMIC. THE COMMUNIQUE UNDERLINES THAT THE SIDES EXPECT A 50 PERCENT INCREASE IN TRADE IN 1974 OVER THE CORRESPONDING 1973 TOTALS, AND THAT TRADE WILL BE MORE NEARLY IN BALANCE. (COMMENT -- THE EMBASSY WAS ADVISED THAT THE INCREASE WAS PROJECTED AT 60 PERCENT DURING THE RECENT JOINT FRG-USSR ECONOMIC COMMITTEE MEETING.) THE COMMUNIQUE CONTINUES THAT THE "PRINCIPLES" OF THE 1958 TRADE AND NAVIGATION TREATY WILL BE APPLIED IN THE FUTURE AS WELL, "IN ORDER TO ENSURE THE

PRESERVATION OF EXISTING COMMON PRINCIPLES OF ECONOMIC RELATIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE INTERNATIONAL OBLIGATIONS OF THE SIDES." THIS SOMEWHAT TORTURED LANGUAGE REFERS TO THE MFN RIGHTS CONTAINED IN THE 1958 TREATY. BALSER, DISCUSSING THIS QUESTION, SAID THAT A UNILATERAL LETTER GIVING THE SOVIETS ASSURANCES ON MFN AND SIGNED BY HERMES HAD BEEN HANDED TO THE SOVIETS. THE LETTER IS IN THE SAME FORMAT AGREED ON AT BRUSSELS AND USED ALSO BY THE FRENCH.

10. THE COMMUNIQUE PLACES CONSIDERABLE EMPHASIS ON THE LONGER TERM ASPECTS OF THE BILATERAL ECONOMIC RELATIONSHIP. IT NOTES THAT THE TEN-YEAR 1973 ECONOMIC AGREEMENT CREATES GOOD CONDITIONS FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF INDUSTRIAL COOPERATION ON A "LONG-TERM, STABLE BASIS," AND STATES THAT THE JOINT COMMISSION ON ECONOMIC AND SCIENTIFIC-TECHNOLOGICAL COOPERATION IS WORKING ON PROJECTS, SOME LARGE SCALE, WHICH ARE DESIGNED TO ANSWER THE TWO SIDES' ECONOMIC NEEDS FOR "MANY YEARS IN THE FUTURE." THE THIRD AGREEMENT ON NATURAL GAS DELIVERIES TO THE FRG, ALSO ANNOUNCED IN THE COMMUNIQUE, DEALS WITH DELIVERIES FROM 1978 TO THE YEAR 2000. BALSER COMMENTED THAT THE FRG WAS PARTICULARLY PLEASED WITH THE LONG-TERM IMPLICATIONS OF THE GAS AGREEMENT.

11. NUCLEAR PLANT. THE COMMUNIQUE AVOIDS MENTION OF CONFIDENTIAL

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THE PROPOSED NUCLEAR PLANT SALE BY THE FRG TO THE USSR, THOUGH IT DOES NOTE THAT ATOMIC ENERGY IS ONE AREA IN WHICH THE TWO SIDES COULD USEFULLY COOPERATE. BALSER EXPLAINED THAT AGREEMENT ON THE SALE IS STILL APPARENTLY HELD UP BY SOVIET REFUSAL TO MEET ALL FRG DESIRES ON THE WEST BERLIN ROUTING OF THE POWER LINES. THE SOVIETS HAVE ALSO FLATLY STATED THAT INTERNATIONAL SAFEGUARDS FOR THE PLANT "ARE OUT OF THE QUESTION." TALKS ON THE ECONOMIC ASPECTS OF THE PLANT WILL CONTINUE; THE FRG APPARENTLY HOPES AHT THEY WILL DILUTE THE POLITICAL PROBLEMS.

12. IRANIAN GAS. THE COMMUNIQUE STATES THAT "SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS" WAS REACHED ON THE QUESTION OF TRANSFER OF IRANIAN NATURAL GAS OVER SOVIET TERRITORY, AND BALSER CONFIDED THAT SIGNATURE OF AN APPROPRIATE AGREEMENT IS EXPECTED IN NOVEMBER.
STOESSEL UNQUOTE INGERSOLL

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